



PATENT

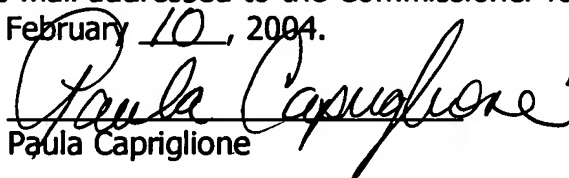
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Matter of the Application of: G. Chou et al.
For: Method and Apparatus for Induction Heat Treating Electrical Contacts
Serial No.: 10/073,488 Filed: February 11, 2002
Examiner: G. Wyszomierski Group Art Unit: 1742

REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 10, 2004.


Paula Capriglione

Sir:

This reply is in response to the second Office Action mailed October 10, 2003 (Paper No. 6) for the above identified application. This reply is being filed within the first month after expiration of the three month shortened statutory period for response set in the Office Action. A separate petition and fee for a one month extension of time, which resets the deadline for response to February 10, 2004, is being filed concurrently with this reply.

Charge any fee associated with this reply and credit any overcharge to Deposit Account No. 23-1950.